



S/N 09/943,109

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shannon M. Short Examiner: Ming Chow  
Serial No.: 09/943,109 Group Art Unit: 2645  
Filed: August 30, 2001 Docket No.: 60027.0307US01/BLS01158  
Title: Tracking and Notification of Telephone Plan Minute Status

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on August 24 2005.

*Murrell W. Blackburn*  
Murrell W. Blackburn, Reg. No. 50,881

DECLARATION OF SHANNON M. SHORT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131

Shannon M. Short declares that:

1.

This declaration is to establish completion of the invention in this application in the United States on a date prior to June 14, 2001.

2.

I am the inventor of the invention described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/943,109 filed on August 30, 2001, entitled " Tracking and Notification of Telephone Plan Minute Status."

3.

I was an employee of BellSouth Corporation, assignee for the above-identified patent application, at the time the invention described and claimed in this patent application was invented, and I am still employed by BellSouth Corporation.

4.

I conceived, in this country, the invention as described and claimed in the above-identified patent application prior to June 14, 2001 and, coupled with due diligence, subsequently filed the present application on August 30, 2001. In support thereof, the following materials are attached:

A. An invention disclosure document detailing conception of the invention by the inventor prior to June 14, 2001. The invention disclosure document is attached hereto as EXHIBIT 1.

B. A memorandum commemorating the date of a disclosure meeting disclosing the invention. Certain non-relevant and business sensitive information has been redacted from the memorandum. The patent application process was begun by the inventor prior to June 14, 2001 and completed by August 30, 2001. The memorandum is attached hereto as EXHIBIT 2.

5.

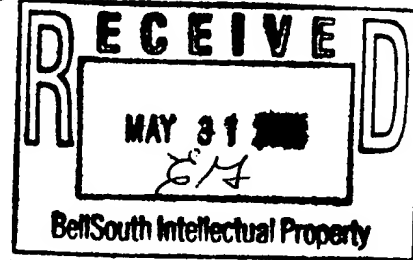
All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further, these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issuing thereon.

Shannon M. Short  
Shannon M. Short

8-4-05  
Date

216 Triumph Dr. Atlanta, GA 30327  
Residential Address

# Invention Disclosure Tracking Sheet

File # 01158

Disclosure Title:

METHOD for tracking and  
NOTIFICATION of CELLULAR PHONE MINUTES  
STATUS.

Inventor(s):

Shannon ShortInventor Data Attached ☒Inventor Data Attached ☐Inventor Data Attached ☐Inventor Data Attached ☐Inventor Data Attached ☐Inventor Data Attached ☐

Disclosure Process:

☒ Technology Review VMDate 5/1/01☒ Disclosure Award E/HDate 6/7/01 scanned☒ Disclosure Docketed SBDate 6/12/01☐ Application Filed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Filing Award \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

☐ US Patent # \_\_\_\_\_ (int) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_☐ Issuance Award \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Provisional Application Filed? Yes / No

Disclosure Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Law Firm Prepared: KL / KS / SP / WW

Law Firm Assigned: KL / KS / SP / WW

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☐ From BSCC ESP

**BELLSOUTH INVENTOR DATA and INVENTION DISCLOSURE AWARD FORM**

**NAME of INVENTION** \_\_\_\_\_

**Inventor 1**

Inventor's Full Name: Shannon M. Short  
Home Address: 216 Triumph Dr Atlanta GA 30327  
Home Phone: 404 355 9675  
Business Address: Ste 500 1155 Peachtree St NE Atlanta GA 30309  
Bus. Tel. No./Fax No.: 404 249 0399 / 404 249 2822  
Citizenship: US  
Supervisor/Dept.: Scott Frank BIP  
Company: BellSouth Intellectual Prop Marketing Corp  
Intellectual Prop. Cord.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Department Head: Scott Frank  
BellSouth Employee (Yes) No

**Inventor 2**

Inventor's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bus. Tel. No./Fax No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor/Dept.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Intellectual Prop. Cord.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Department Head: \_\_\_\_\_  
BellSouth Employee Yes / No

**Inventor 3**

Inventor's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bus. Tel. No./Fax No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor/Dept.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Intellectual Prop. Cord.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Department Head: \_\_\_\_\_  
BellSouth Employee Yes / No

(To be completed by BIPMAN Legal Department)

☐ Disclosure received

☐ Application Filed

☐ Issuance

File No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Filed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Issued: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Docketed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approval

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**BELLSOUTH INVENTION DISCLOSURE FORM**  
**(Also complete the Inventor Data Form)**

This form should be used to communicate potentially useful innovations to the Company. You may use existing materials, including schematic diagrams, flow charts, sketches, or other documents, to describe your invention. Include dates only if known or readily available.

Completed forms and questions should be forwarded to your Intellectual Property (I.P.) Coordinator or to BellSouth Intellectual Property Management Corporation : La Veria Baker, Technology Asset Manager, phone (404) 249-2867, FAX (404) 249-2822, [laveria.baker@bellsouth.com](mailto:laveria.baker@bellsouth.com); or Vernon Meadows, Director-Technology, phone (404) 249-2854, FAX (404) 249-2822, [vernon.meadows@bellsouth.com](mailto:vernon.meadows@bellsouth.com).

**1. Inventor Names / Phone Numbers**

1. Shannon Short 404-249-0399
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Descriptive Title of the Invention. (Limit to ten words, this does not have to be exact.)**

Method for tracking and notification of cellular plan minutes status

**3. State the problem(s) solved by this invention.**

Customers will know when they have reached their limit on cellular plan minutes and can then manage choices regarding use of cellular phone beyond plan minutes. Gives customer the option of whether or not to use more minutes in billing cycle than prepaid in cellular plan and eliminates billing surprises for extra minutes billed at higher per minute charges. Will track and notify on all categories of prepaid minutes separately.

**4. Describe the invention briefly. Include its operation, purpose, environment, and new elements (e.g. components, process steps, network configuration) and how problem(s) were solved.**  
 (Optional- Attachments and separate sheets).

**5. List the closest known technology. (If readily accessible attach article, patent, catalog sheet or other documentation)**  
Notification to prepaid calling card user of minutes remaining on calling card available for calls

**6. Has the invention been publicly used or disclosed outside of BellSouth? Yes / No? (Date \_\_\_\_\_)**  
 To whom did you first disclose this invention (Name): No

**7. When is the estimated (deployment date, trial date) or (public disclosure, first sale)? (if known)**  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Date the invention was first built and tested. Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

Not yet built or tested

**9. Has the invention been offered for sale? (Yes/ No) Date: \_\_\_\_\_**  
No

**10. Did the invention result from work on a development contract? Yes/ No?: Who was the contracting (Company / Person)?**  
No

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Describe the invention briefly. Include its operation, purpose, environment, and new elements (e.g. components, process steps, network configuration) and how problem(s) were solved.

The invention will provide a means for the cellular service provider to track cellular plan minutes, by category (i.e. anytime, nights and weekends, etc.), and to provide status of plan minutes to the customer automatically or on request. Information may be made available to the customer via a method such as a text message from the provider to the customers cellular phone, customer access to an Internet website, or any other viable method. This invention also includes tracking and notification of minutes through hardware design where cellular phone call timers would be configured to track minutes based on time of day and to split minutes into separate "time of day" call timers. The configuration could include a method for programming the customers phone based on the customers unique calling plan setup and plan minutes.

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**KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP**

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June 11, 2001

**Steven Gardner**  
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Direct Dial: 336.607.7483

• **Memorandum**

**TO:** Marcus Delgado, Esq.  
BellSouth Intellectual Property  
Management Corporation

**FROM:** Steven Gardner

**CC:** Jim Ewing, ~~Laura Kelley~~  
Karen Stark, Debra Jones

**RE:** New Invention Disclosure Information – Estimate of Fees and Date for Delivery  
of First Draft of Patent Application

BellSouth DOCKET NO: **BS01158** Kilpatrick Stockton DOCKET NO: 36968/259630

**TITLE:** METHOD FOR TRACKING AND NOTIFICATION OF CELLULAR PLAN  
MINUTES STATUS

**DATE OF DISCLOSURE MEETING:** May 31, 2001

**INVENTORS:** Shannon M. Short

**Kilpatrick Stockton ATTORNEY:** Laura Kelley

**Kilpatrick Stockton SUPERVISING ATTORNEY:** Steven Gardner

**1<sup>ST</sup> DRAFT OF APPLICATION DELIVERED TO BellSouth BY:** July 26, 2001

**ESTIMATED Kilpatrick Stockton FEES\* FOR FIRST DRAFT OF APPLICATION:**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR BellSouth:**

\*The estimated Kilpatrick Stockton fees for preparation of the first draft of this patent application are based on the information gained during the disclosure meeting referenced above and assume timely receipt of the materials requested of BellSouth and listed in the "Action Items" category above. The estimate does not include filing fees (such as U.S. Patent and Trademark Office fees, PCT fees, or foreign filing fees), assignment recording fees, or formal drawing costs.

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